IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

olicant:

THOMPSON ET AL.

Examiner:

M. CONNELLY CUSHWA

Serial No.:

10/810,547

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

2874

MARCH 26, 2004

Docket:

2316.926USRE

Confirmation

9367

Due Date:

JUNE 18, 2006

No.:

Title:

OUTSIDE PLANT FIBER DISTRIBUTION APPARATUS AND METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on June 19, 2006.

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

23552 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

> Merchant & Gould P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 612.332.5300

Name: Karen A. Fitzsimmonse

Reg. No.: 50,470 KFitzsimmons/cjc



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 **EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 2874**

S/N 10/810,547

PATENT

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Virginia 22313-1450 June 19, 2006.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated April 18, 2006. In view of the following amendments and response, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.